

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	<b>MAIL STOP AMENDMENT</b>
	)	
Frank J. Koch et al.	)	Group Art Unit: 2863
	)	
Application No.: 09/542,640	)	Examiner: HIEN XUAN VO
	)	
Filed: April 3, 2000	)	Confirmation No.: 4650
	)	
For: COATING THICKNESS GAUGE	)	
	)	

**RESPONSE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated April 25, 2006, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the outstanding rejections.

Claims 1-9, 21-30, 32-38, and 46-50 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,243,661 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,789,030. However, in view of the fact that neither applied reference is prior art with respect to the original application, which was filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on September 15, 1995, the rejection is improper and should be immediately withdrawn.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this application, please contact the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: May 11, 2006

By: /WCRoland/  
William C. Rowland  
Registration No. 30,888

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620